Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—No such assurance can be given.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Am I to understand that the position of the Government is that fields which are used for paddy cultivation should not be used for cultivating another crop?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—That is not the Government position at all.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Had the Government, Sir, any occasion to consider the tax on fisheries rather heavy in view of the fact that a new income tax has been imposed on it?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There has been no complaint so far.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—We now complain for the public.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—We had no occasion to consider the point because there has been no complaint so far.

Concessions to those who subsist by fisheries in the State.

125. Mr. M. A. Sankunni.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what is meant by "the generous concessions to those who subsist by fisheries in the State" as seen in the reply to the interpellation No. 59 of the last Budget Session;

(b) how many Valans are given such concessions or any other concession;

(c) who are they; when are they and what are those concessions?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) The words reproduced were intended to mean that Government have been granting remissions of rent to those fishery contractors who have suffered losses owing to causes beyond their control and extension or re-distribution of kists for payment of rents in deserving cases.

(b) The lessees of the fishery in survey number 803 of Elamkulam village are Valans. They are a group and their number is not known.

(c) (1) Names not known.

(2) In 1110.

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(3) A remission of Rs. 25 was granted, the amount representing one-twelfth of the whole bid amount. Some of the inland fisheries are also leased out to the Valans without auction. For example (i) The Amballur fishery is leased to the Keecheri Vala Co-operative Society; (ii) the Vyttila fishery is leased to the Valans of Vyttila and (iii) the Fishery in the Kumaranthi thodu in Pallipuram is leased to the Cherai Vala Co-operative Society.

Complaints from the Oonni-holders of Mattancheri.

126. Mr. M. A. Sankunni.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

what are the complaints from the Oonni-holders of Mattancheri; how are they settled?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Marakkadavu and the Vadappurakkal stake owners were complaining against the loss of revenue due to dredging operations conducted by the Harbour authorities. They requested for compensation for the temporary loss of revenue and a sum of Rs. 393 has been sanctioned by the Harbour authorities. The amount will be paid soon.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. എ. ശങ്കുണ്ണി.— ഇതിൽ പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യ എത്ര മാസങ്ങൾക്കു മുമ്പായിട്ട് കൊടുക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നു പറയാമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അച്യുത മേനോൻ.—ഒട്ടും താമസിയാതെ കൊടുക്കുവാനുള്ള ശ്രമം ചെയ്യാം.

Fishing in the backwaters.

127. Mr. M. A. Sankunni.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—(a) whether the catch of fish in the backwater is prohibitive

(1) during up-tide;

(2) with light during night;

(3) using poison;

and (4) using gun-powder;

(b) if so, how many such cases are booked for the last 5 years and what punishments were given to them;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the death of a person at Cranganur by eating poisoned fish and five others at Kadamakudi owing to mishap during a process of gun-powder beneath the water to catch fish?

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